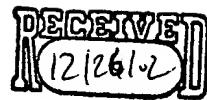


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of **Michael A. Epstein**
 Serial No.: **08/994,878**

Filed: **19-Dec-1997**Title: **ADMINISTRATION AND UTILIZATION OF PRIVATE KEYS IN A
NETWORKED ENVIRONMENT**

Atty. Docket No.: **PHA 23-313**
 Group Art Unit: **2131**
 Examiner: **Hosuk Song**

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Notice of Appeal

Sir:

Applicants hereby appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences from the decision dated **26 September 2002** of the Examiner finally rejecting claims **5-8** in the above referenced application.

- Please charge the fee of \$320.00 to Deposit Account No _____.
- A check in the amount of \$320 is enclosed.
- Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed).
- The Commissioner has been authorized to charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. _____.
- No additional fee is required, because the fee was paid in a prior appeal.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert M. McDermott, Esq.
 Reg. No. 41,508
 804-493-0707

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

It is hereby certified that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being:

deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, BOX AF, WASHINGTON, DC 20231.
 transmitted by facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at **703-746-7238**.

On **26 December 2002**By 